## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

## LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A connector, comprising:

a housing, including:

a plurality of terminal receiving chambers in which metal terminals are accommodated; and

a plurality of elastic retaining arm portions for respectively retaining the metal terminals;

a front holder, attached to the housing in a completely-retaining position through a provisionally-retaining position;

wherein the front holder prevents the elastic deformation of the elastic retaining arm portions in the completely-retaining position; and

wherein the front holder allows the elastic deformation of the elastic retaining arm portions in the provisionally-retaining position;

a provisionally-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism , retaining the front holder to the housing in the provisionally-retaining position; and

a completely-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism, retaining the front holder to the housing in the completely-retaining position,

wherein the completely-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism is provided at one region so as to retain the housing and the front holder, and includes an operation portion for releasing the retaining of the housing and the holder, and the operating portion is disposed so as to be exposed to the exterior.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the completely-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism includes a center retaining ~~member~~ mechanism which is provided generally at a central portion of the housing and front holder.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The connector as set forth in claim 2, wherein the center retaining ~~member~~ mechanism includes a first retaining portion provided ~~at one of~~ on the housing ~~and the front holder~~, and a resilient arm lock portion provided ~~at the other of the housing and~~ on the front holder;

wherein the resilient arm lock portion, includes;

an elastically-deformable arm which is fixed to ~~the other of the housing and~~ the front holder at one end of the arm;

a second retaining portion which is formed on and projecting from a free end portion of the arm; and

the operating portion which is provided on the free end of the arm, and makes the arm elastically deformed so as to displace the second retaining portion into a lock released position; and

wherein the second retaining portion of the resilient arm lock portion is engaged with the first retaining portion in the completely-retaining position.

Claim 4 (original): The connector as set forth in claim 3, wherein the second retaining portion of the resilient arm lock portion is engaged with the first retaining portion in the provisionally-retaining position to prevent the front holder from moving from the provisionally-retaining position to the completely-retaining position.

Claim 5 (original): The connector as set forth in claim 3, wherein the first retaining portion is provided on the housing; and

wherein the resilient arm lock portion is provided on the front holder.

Claim 6 (original): The connector as set forth in claim 5, wherein an insertion hole is formed in the housing;

wherein the insertion hole is used for removing a mold when injection molding the first retaining portion of the housing; and

wherein the resilient arm lock portion is inserted in the insertion hole when the front holder is disposed in the completely-retaining position.

Claim 7 (original): The connector as set forth in claim 3, wherein the second retaining portion of the arm includes;

a first face which is disposed close to the free end of the arm, and is slanted relative to a direction of extending of the arm; and

a second face which is disposed close to the fixed end of the arm, and is perpendicular to the direction of extending of the arm; and

wherein the first retaining portion includes;

a third face which is slanted, and abuts against the first face of the second retaining portion in the provisionally-retaining position; and

a fourth face which is generally parallel to the second face of the retaining portion, and abuts against the second face in the completely-retaining position.

Claim 8 (original): The connector as set forth in claim 3, wherein the first retaining portion includes a pair of opposed first projections formed respectively on a pair of ribs extending parallel to the direction of extending of the resilient arm lock portion; and

wherein the second retaining portion includes a pair of second projections formed on the arm.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the front holder and the housing are released from the completely-retaining position by displacing the operating portion outwardly.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A connector, comprising:

a housing, including:

a plurality of terminal receiving chambers in which metal terminals are accommodated; and

a plurality of elastic retaining arm portions for respectively retaining the metal terminals;

a front holder, inserted into the housing from a fitting side of the housing, and attached to the housing in a completely-retaining position through a provisionally-retaining position;

wherein the front holder prevents the elastic deformation of the elastic retaining arm portions in the completely-retaining position; and

wherein the front holder allows the elastic deformation of the elastic retaining arm portions in the provisionally-retaining position;

a provisionally-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism, retaining the front holder in the housing in the provisionally-retaining position; and

a completely-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism, retaining the front holder in the housing in the completely-retaining position;

wherein the provisionally-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism and the completely-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism are provided on an exterior of a terminal receiving area where the plurality of terminal receiving chambers are provided as viewed from a first direction in which the front holder is inserted into the housing;

wherein the provisionally-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism includes;

a pair of side retaining members which are respectively provided at opposite sides of the terminal receiving area in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction; and

a center retaining ~~member~~ mechanism which is provided at a side of the terminal receiving area in a third direction perpendicular to both the first direction and the second direction; and

wherein the completely-retaining ~~member~~ mechanism is formed by the center retaining ~~member~~ mechanism disposed generally at a central position of the terminal receiving area in the second direction.

Claim 11 (original): The connector as set forth in claim 10, wherein each of the side retaining members includes;

a guide hole which is formed in one of the housing and the front holder, and extends in the first direction; and

a retaining projection which is provided at the other of the housing and the front holder, and is slidably inserted in the guide hole; and

wherein the retaining projection abuts against an end face of the guide hole to retain the front holder in the provisionally-retaining position.

Claim 12 (original): The connector as set forth in claim 11, wherein the guide hole is formed in the front holder; and

wherein the retaining projection is formed on the housing.